

**Department of Mental Health
Adult Community Clinical Service**

Frequently Asked Questions

**Community Service Plan
Requirements for Balancing Person Center Planning and Goal Setting**

Question 1:

Do Community Service Plan) goals need to be written in attainable, measurable terms to meet rehab option requirements?

Answer 1:

No, the Department recognizes that in order to create a well written person-centered plan, goals need to be stated in the individual's own words and may include statements of dreams, hopes, role functions, and vision of life.

Question 2:

How do specific need areas get addressed in the Community Service Plan if goals are no longer directly linked to an assessed need in the Comprehensive Assessment (CA)?

Answer 2:

More than one need area can be addressed in a particular goal. The assessed needs or the barriers identified in the CA become the objectives and/or interventions in the Community Service Plan and should be connected with the over-arching goal. Every objective must link to a prioritized assessed need either in the wording of the objective itself and/or in at least one intervention.

Question 3:

Assessed needs are prioritized according to the person's service preferences in general, but also may include needs that pose significant barriers to the person's safety or significantly impede the achievement of his/her personal or life goals therefore, how do these significant barriers get addressed if an individual does not want to include them in their Community Service Plan?

Answer 3:

It is the Department's expectation that when there is a serious risk of physical harm to the person served or to others (including a history of serious violent acts), the specific risk issue will be documented in the Comprehensive Assessment and whenever possible in the Community Service Plan). When the specific risk issue is not included in the Community Service Plan, the clinical formulation must include the rationale for the exclusion. Providers are strongly encouraged to include identified risk factors in the CA, Community Service Plan, and supplemental documentation on an ongoing basis.